

Weekly Disease Surveillance Report



2021 Reporting Week 38: September 19 — September 25

This weekly report is produced by the DOH-Okaloosa Epidemiology Section to provide situational awareness to community partners. Data is subject to change as additional information is gathered.

Okaloosa COVID-19 Status

Okaloosa continues to show favorable trends in COVID-19 cases and vaccinations. Case positivity is down to 12.3%, a percentage we last observed in early July. Residents should still remain alert, however, since community risk level remains HIGH. Okaloosa residents who initiated COVID-19 vaccination in Week 38 totaled just under 3,400. The total of Okaloosa residents aged 12 and older that are fully-vaccinated has now surpassed 100K! The actual number of fully vaccinated in Okaloosa is 100,788 (56.4%)!

As of September 28, local hospitals reported that they were 83.8% full, of which 19.3% of those beds are occupied by COVID-19 patients. Of all ICU hospital beds in Okaloosa, 34.1% were occupied by COVID-19 patients. The unvaccinated population continues to be the most heavily impacted. **Over 70% of persons hospitalized with COVID-19 are unvaccinated.** The vaccine is highly effective at preventing severe disease and death.

Get VACCINATED today! It is SAFE. It WORKS!

Guidance on the newly approved [COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Shot](#) eligibility is available on the CDC website. Currently, the Pfizer vaccine is the only booster approved at this time. Additionally, a **third dose** of the mRNA vaccine is still recommended for [moderately and severely immunosuppressed people](#) who completed either the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine series. The third dose must be from the same manufacturer. An additional dose is not authorized for the J&J vaccine.

Okaloosa continues to host a **FREE Monoclonal Antibody Treatment site**. [Monoclonal Antibody Treatments](#) are authorized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for use in adult and pediatric patients (12 and older) who have either been diagnosed or exposed to someone with COVID-19 and are at high risk for progression to severe illness, hospitalization, or death from COVID-19.

Contact Us:

**Florida Department of Health
in Okaloosa County**

Epidemiology Section

**24/7 Disease Reporting:
850-833-9065**

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COVID-19 Snapshot

Week 38 Review		Difference from Wk37
Resident Case Count	531	-270
Resident Case Count per 100K Population	257.3	-130.8
Average Resident Cases per Day	75.9	-38.5
Percent Positivity	12.3%	-4.4%

Data Source: Merlin Database

The Florida Department of Health (FDOH) provides the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with county COVID-19 data, including deaths.

The death data can be obtained on the CDC's website at <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view> | Florida | 12091 | Risk | community transmission level.

For questions related to COVID-19 death data, please contact the FDOH Office of Communications at 850-245-4111 or NewsMedia@flhealth.gov.

Week 38 Community Risk Level		
COVID-19 Community Risk Level	New Cases per 100K Population per Week	% Positivity per Week
HIGH	257.3	12.3%
PREVIOUS WEEK RISK LEVEL: HIGH		
Low	<10	<5%
Moderate	10-49	5-7.9%
Substantial	50-99	8-9.9%
High	>100	>10%

Community risk level is the color of the higher risk level for the two indicators.

Data Source : CDC [Community Indicators at the County Level](#)



COVID-19 Fully
Vaccinated =
No Quarantine

COVID-19 in Okaloosa County

Week 38: September 19- September 25

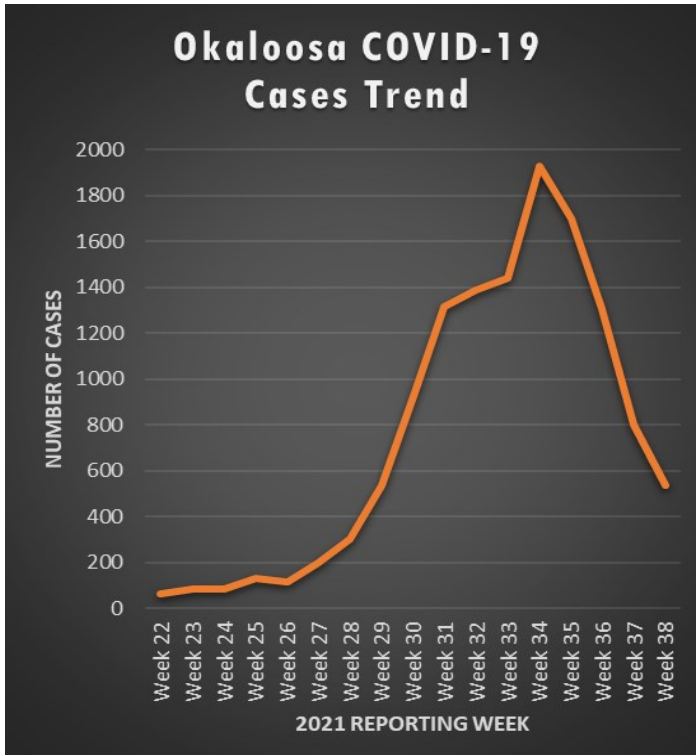


Figure 1: Trend of total COVID-19 cases by week. Data source: Merlin Database

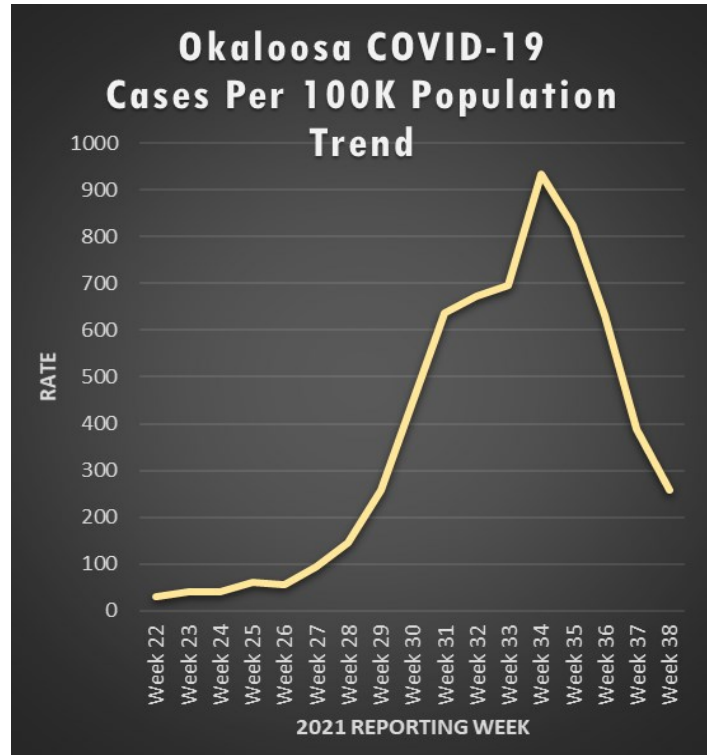


Figure 2: Trend of COVID-19 case rates by week. Data source: Merlin Database

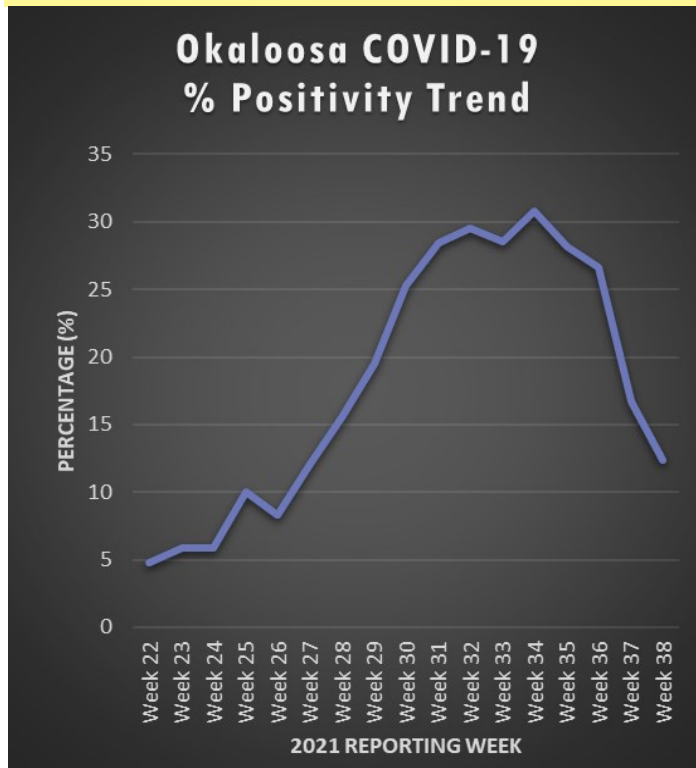


Figure 3: Trend of 7-day moving percent positivity of COVID-19 cases by week. Data source: Merlin Database

Age Group	Okaloosa Resident Cases since 03/01/21 through Week 38	% by Age Group	Difference from Week 37
0-11	1910	12.9%	+84
12-14	676	4.6%	+20
15-24	2298	15.6%	+78
25-44	5075	34.4%	+183
45-64	3352	22.7%	+114
65-74	888	6.0%	+35
75-84	367	2.5%	+12
85+	193	1.3%	+4
Unknown	6	0.0%	+1
Total	14765	100%	+531

Data Source: Merlin Database



COVID-19 Fully
Vaccinated =
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COVID-19 in Okaloosa County

Week 38: September 19- September 25

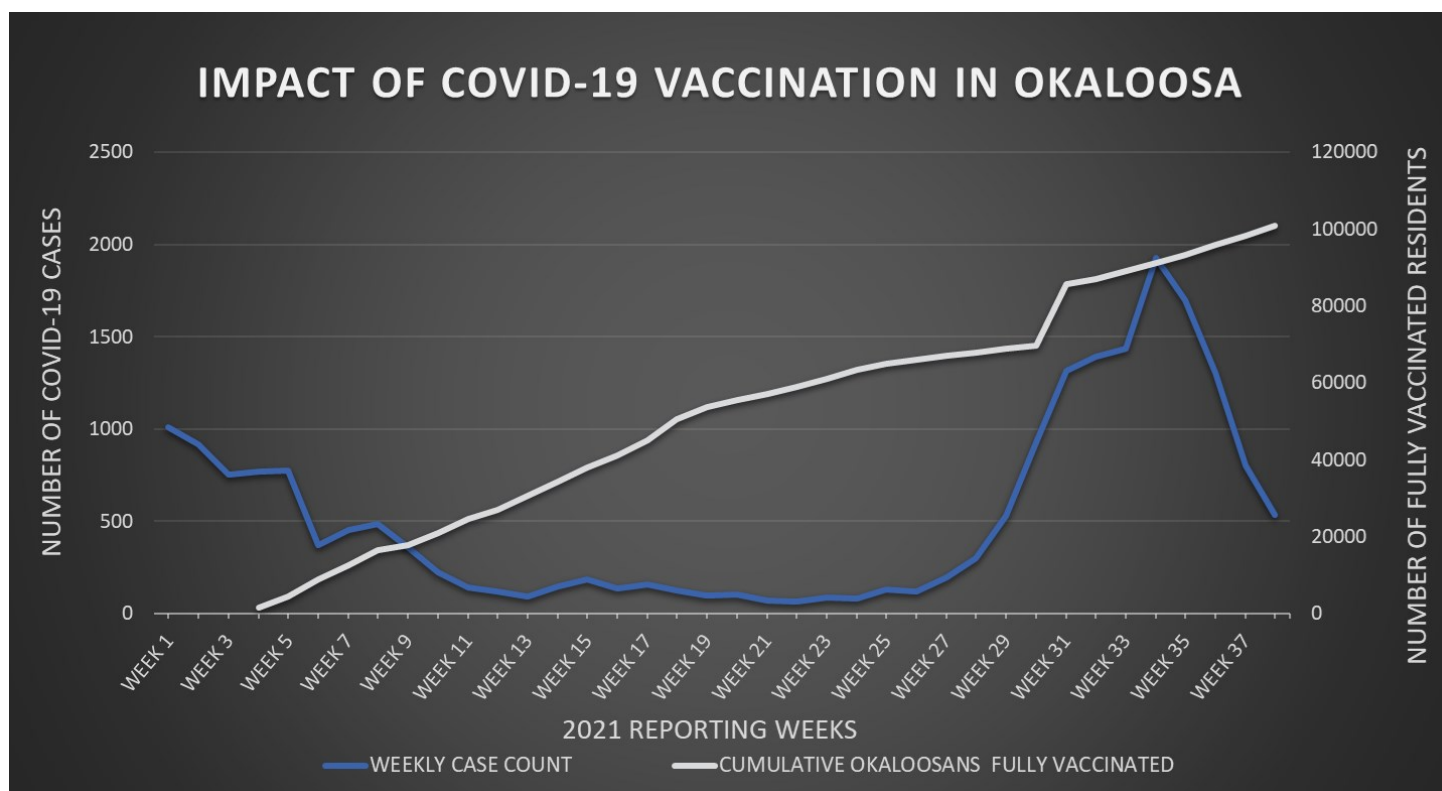


Figure 4: Cumulative number of fully vaccinated Okaloosa residents as compared to COVID-19 cases per week. Data reported through previous Sunday.
Data Source: Merlin & CDC [COVID Data Tracker](#)

VACCINATION DATA RESOURCE

The CDC COVID Data Tracker presents county level vaccination data that includes vaccinations from:

- FL SHOTS, including FL Department of Health, retail pharmacies, and long-term care facilities,
- Dialysis centers participating in the Federal Dialysis Center Program,
- Health Resources and Services Administration partner sites, and
- Federal entities such as Department of Defense, Veterans Health Administration, Indian Health Service and Bureau of Prisons.

Percentage of
Breakthrough
Infection in
Fully-Vaccinated
Individuals:

1.19%

Data Source: Merlin & CDC [COVID Data Tracker](#)

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

Fully-Vaccinated Groups	OKALOOSA	US
% of Population \geq 12 Years of Age	56.4%	64.7%
% of Population \geq 18 Years of Age	58.8%	66.6%
% of Population \geq 65 Years of Age	87.0%	83.2%

Data reported through previous Sunday. Data Source: CDC [COVID Data Tracker](#)



Influenza-Like Illness

Week 38: September 19 - September 25

Influenza-like Illness (ILI) is defined as fever greater than or equal to 100°F AND cough and/or sore throat in the absence of another known cause.

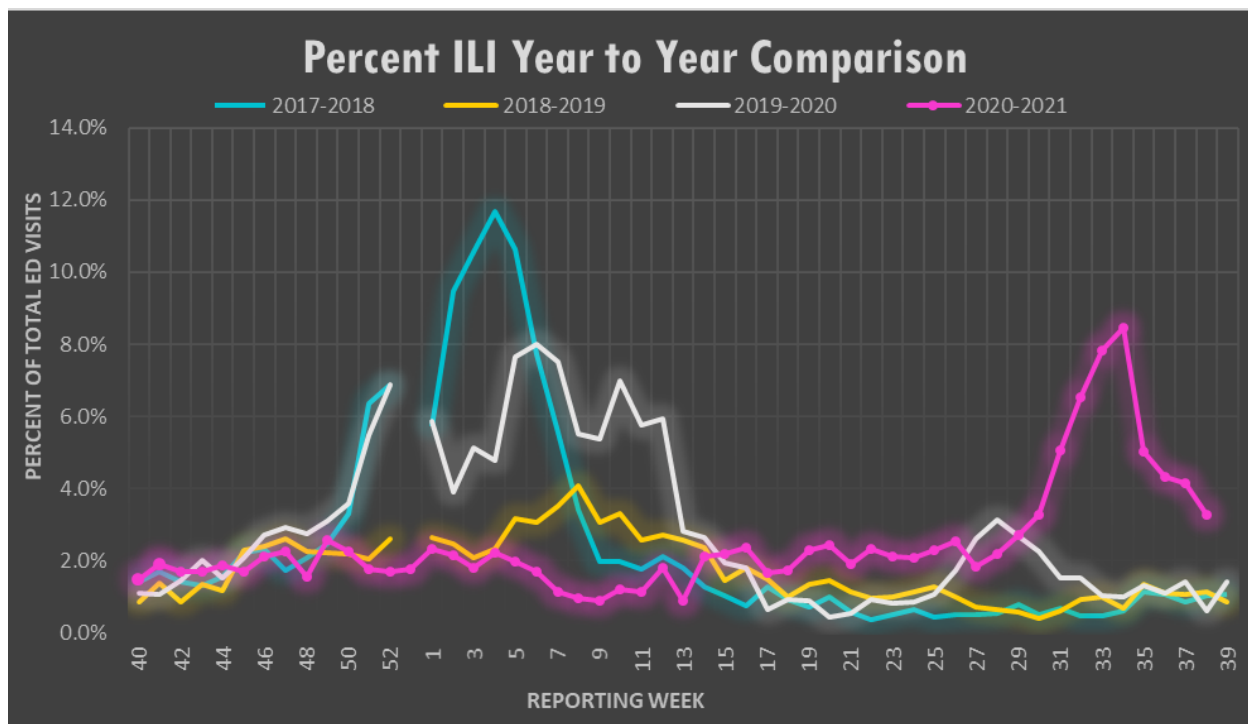


Figure 5: Annual comparison of the percent of all hospital ED visits due to ILI for Okaloosa county for the 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21 influenza seasons by week.

Data source:
ESSENCE

ANALYSIS: During Week 38, flu reporting partners and ESSENCE (a syndromic surveillance system) reported a decrease in ILI activity for Okaloosa County. The percentage of ILI ED visits in Okaloosa County decreased from 4.14% during Week 37 to 3.29% during Week 38. Flu partners reported no positive rapid influenza tests this week. Over the past three weeks, 12 out of 166 influenza specimens submitted to the state lab were positive (1 Influenza A unspecified, 11 Influenza B unspecified). There were no reported ILI admissions, outbreaks, or deaths reported this week. The percentage of total ILI ED visits for Week 38 is higher than that of Week 38 last year.

Note: Other respiratory syndromes can be represented by increased ILI case numbers. Data Source: ESSENCE

% ILI by Age Group Week 38, 2021

Age Range	ILI Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total ILI Visits
0-4	16	161	9.94%
5-19	16	277	5.78%
20-34	9	517	1.74%
35-54	20	533	3.75%
55-74	7	458	1.53%
75+	3	209	1.44%

Data Source: ESSENCE

% of Total ILI Visits by Facility Week 38, 2021

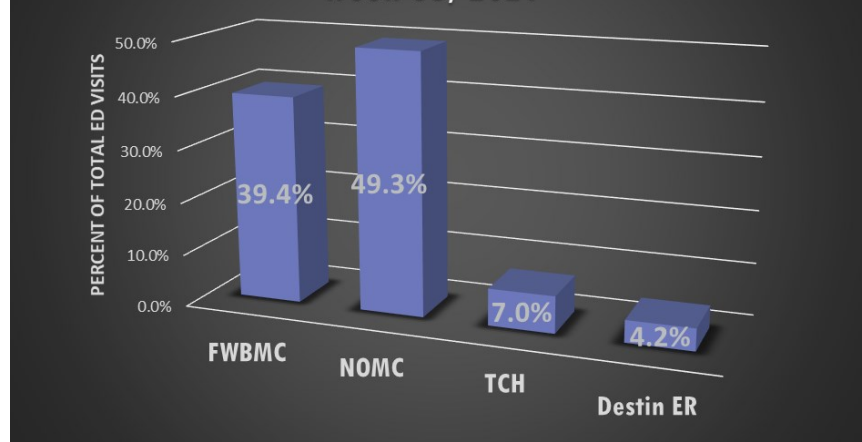


Figure 6: Hospital ED visits meeting ILI criteria stratified by facility. Percentages calculated based on total number of ILI ED visits. (n=71). Data source: ESSENCE



Syndromic Surveillance

Week 38: September 19 - September 25

Total ED Visits by Syndrome

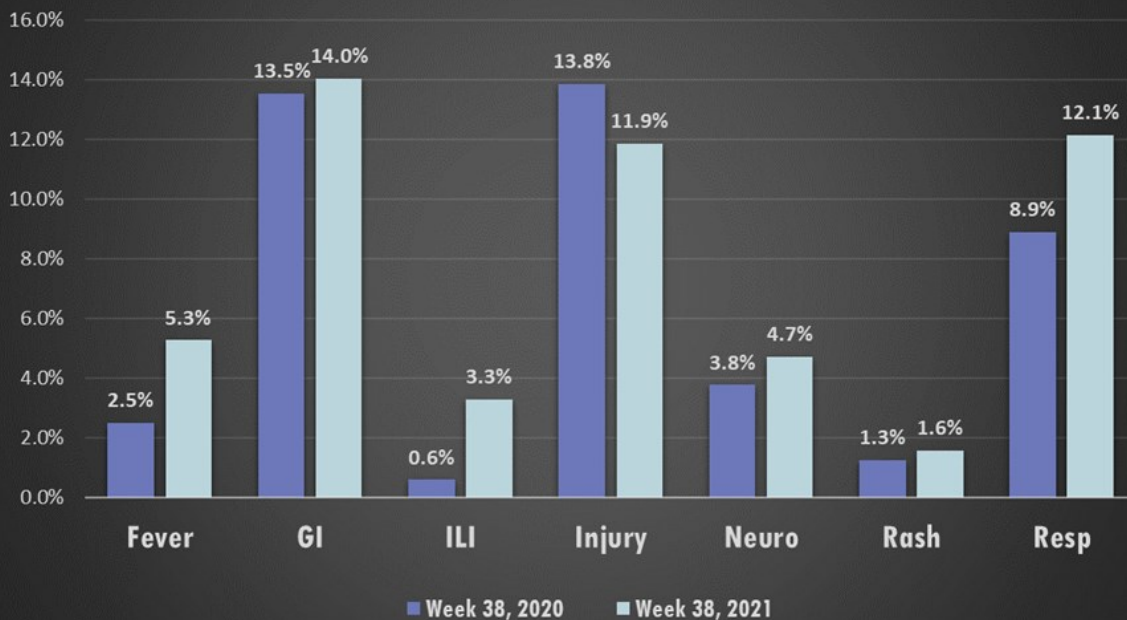
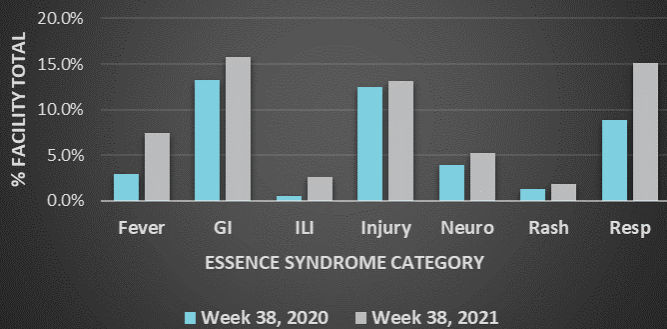


Figure 7: Hospital Emergency Department (ED) visits from 2021 Week 38 by select syndrome category. Percentages calculated based on total number of ED visits (n=2159). Some syndrome categories are not represented; therefore, represented percentages will not total 100%.

Data source: ESSENCE

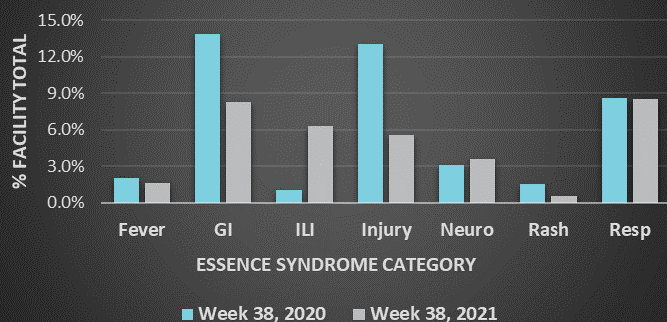
Fort Walton Beach Medical Center ED Presentations



Week 38—Fort Walton Beach Medical Center

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER	35
5-19	RESP	31
20-34	GI	50
35-54	RESP	38
55-74	GI, INJURY	28, 28
75+	INJURY	15

North Okaloosa Medical Center ED Presentations



Week 38—North Okaloosa Medical Center

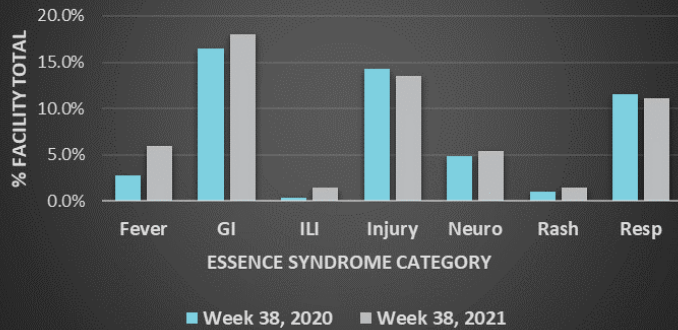
Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER	4
5-19	INJURY	5
20-34	INJURY	10
35-54	RESP	19
55-74	GI	17
75+	GI	6



Syndromic Surveillance

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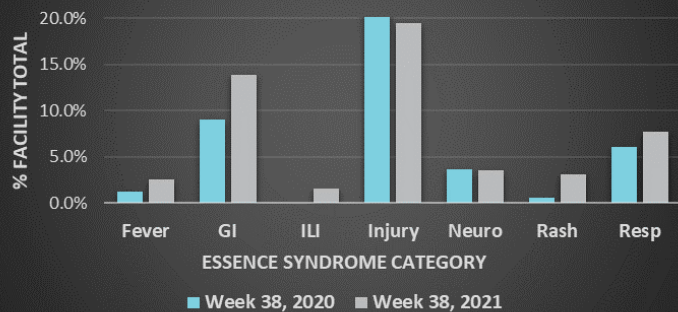
Twin Cities Hospital ED Presentations



Week 38—Twin Cities Hospital

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	INJURY	3
5-19	FEVER, GI	11, 11
20-34	GI	16
35-54	GI	14
55-74	GI	13
75+	INJURY	8

DestinER ED Presentations



Week 38—DestinER

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	RESP	4
5-19	RESP	3
20-34	INJURY	13
35-54	INJURY	12
55-74	INJURY	9
75+	GI	3

Week 38—Okaloosa County

Age Group	Top Syndrome
0-4	FEVER
5-19	RESP
20-34	GI
35-54	GI
55-74	GI
75+	INJURY

Data Source: ESSENCE

